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Will Geer's
Theatricum Botanicum
2017



June 3 thru October 1

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

by William Shakespeare

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

by William Shakespeare

George Orwell's

ANIMAL FARM

adapted by Peter Hall

lyrics by Adrian Mitchell

music by Richard Peaslee

OTHER DESERT CITIES

by Jon Robin Baitz

TROUBLE IN MIND

by Alice Childress





Legacy Plaques

A beautiful way to honor a family member, friend or memory



"This wondrous theatre we've created is our gift to you. Your support has kept us going, fearful tho the future seems. Forget your trials, relax and enjoy...the road ahead is endless, there is no end to what we can and will evolve here. Yet it depends so much on all of us. We pledge to keep this place alive in all its beauty and surprise." ~ Herta Ware

To inquire, please visit our website
www.theatricum.com

or call

310-455-2322

MISSION

To elevate, educate and entertain audiences of all ages by presenting thought-provoking classics, socially relevant plays and education programs in a natural outdoor sanctuary for the arts. By passing on a sense of history to young people and adults alike, great works of art inform their present and inspire their future. A true renaissance theatre, we offer accessible, diverse and multi-faceted programming, from Shakespeare to poetry to folk music to the development of future playwrights—all to help understand the world we live in and to embrace our shared humanity.

HISTORY & PROGRAMMING

The seeds of Theatricum Botanicum were planted in the early 1950s when Will Geer and his wife Herta Ware built a performance space on their Topanga property as a refuge for fellow blacklisted artists victimized by the McCarthy Era injustices. Will, who also held a master's degree in horticulture from the University of Chicago, cultivated a large garden and orchard, earning a living with his family by selling vegetables, fruit and herbs. In 1973, following the success of *The Waltons* television series and his popular portrayal of "Grandpa," the veteran actor gathered family members (who by then were working in theatres across the country) to form a nonprofit corporation, Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum. What began as a small band of players working towards becoming a professional repertory theatre, soon became an even larger enterprise incorporating arts education and musical events.

Core to the mission and values of the organization are its education programs. In 1978, the School Days Field Trip program began offering students and classroom teachers an opportunity to travel to Theatricum's outdoor venue for a day including workshops and a professional production of a Shakespeare play. The Academy of the Classics shortly followed providing year-round private classes for youth, teens, and adults that engage them with the classics and teach cooperation and confidence through ensemble, voice, movement, music, dance, and acting techniques. Classroom Enrichment was added in 1990 to bring Theatricum to the schools. Working with diverse school partners, Theatricum develops and delivers the highest quality arts education programming including Assemblies, Workshops, and Residencies all supporting coverage of core curriculum. Combined, Theatricum's education programs serve over 15,000 PK-12th grade students each year. Students from every corner of the greater Los Angeles region; encompassing virtually every type of school or household. We are deeply proud of the diversity of our educational community.

Theatricum's contributions to the professional theatre and performance community are equally impressive. Theatricum provides 35-40 contracts to professional Actors' Equity Association performers and stage managers each season. In addition, the company includes Equity Membership Candidates whose participation in Theatricum's season enables them to earn points towards eventual union membership and valuable real-world training as they advance in their careers. In addition, for over a decade, the Professional Acting Internship and Apprenticeship programs have provided training and hands on experience to 14-18 adults each summer seeking to hone their craft. The Adult wing of the Academy of the Classics provides the highest quality professional training in audition prep, scene work, text analysis, improvisation, voice, movement, and more. And Seedlings provides an opportunity for playwright's to be supported at critical points in the development of a new work with staged readings helmed by professional directors and performed by professional actors on Theatricum's S. Mark Taper Foundation Pavilion stage.

Of course, the heart of Theatricum has always been its Repertory Company. Every year the company performs a variety of plays which include not only our requisite Shakespeare productions, but also classics from theatre's beloved masters... as well as contemporary pieces which speak to the social conscience of our modern society. Each spring and fall the theatre is home to a range of unique concerts and benefit events. Over the course of the past four decades, the "mainstage" entertainment has expanded to offer special performances for children such as Family Fundays which incorporates live musical concerts and interactive theatrical experiences for kids.

In 2001, Theatricum inaugurated a second educational and performance space, The S. Mark Taper Foundation Youth Pavilion. The 88-seat pavilion not only provided a much-needed home for the theatre's burgeoning youth programs but also a potential for mounting other theatrical experiences for audiences and the local community, as well. Its intimate stage has been ideal for the creation of the Under The Oaks series which offers new and experimental theatre works, outdoor cabaret, stimulating performances of words and music under the stars... and evenings of laughter and frivolity with our resident comedy improv troupe, Off The Grid.

Throughout our history, the local and surrounding communities have continually encouraged and supported the Theatricum's artistic goals. In the early years, folks pitched in to help expand and improve the theatre's facilities, contributing the labor and materials to replace the dirt and mud with the original wooden stage, and outfitting the canyon glen with amphitheatre seats made out of railroad ties. The original gates of the theatre were doors donated from the 1959 classic film, Ben Hur. And in 1984, parents from the Topanga Preschool, using wooden planks salvaged from the old Santa Monica pier, constructed the current stage which has provided a marvelous foundation for enhancement and growth with the more recent additions of the two-story Tiring House and the entry-way balconies.

Every year we move forward into another phase of our growth, finding and realizing new ways to increase engagement with the arts, inspire and revitalize local communities, and join with fellow artists through new forms of outreach. In recent years, Theatricum's Antelope Valley Theatre Project offered a multi-faceted, immersive theatre program to the residents of the Antelope Valley area, incorporating a roadshow performance of selected Repertory plays as well as workshops for individuals and families, and a Community Festival. The overwhelming positive feedback and inspiration we received in return encouraged us to look for ways to expand this project and create new avenues for developing similar programs in other communities.

And here we are in 2017, our 44th season! On a global level, there is as much drama off the stage as there is on. People all over the world are impassioned and speaking out about what they care most about. Apathy is on the decline, while activism and idealism are on the rise. Voices are being heard on every side of every issue...the 'conversation' has truly been ignited. This isn't the 1st time, of course, that communities have been inspired to be heard. Throughout history human-kind has moved forward loudly and with great purpose. And, as in those times before, artistic expression continues to be both a harbinger and a forum...inspiring, as well as reflecting, the modern era as it expands and redefines itself. It is, at this point now, that we at Theatricum, as artists, find ourselves listening to this social discourse and exploring the vast array of perspectives in the mix...and those make us wonder...*How do we truly 'hear' each other? What is it, that history has taught us, will be the path to our new era on common ground?*

It's these questions that became the crux of the plays we chose to make up our 2017 Season. As our Artistic Director, Ellen Geer describes it, "This year, we selected these plays to be presented because we wanted to keep people talking about the things that are happening today, looking back on yesterday and forward towards tomorrow. That is what theater is about...presenting these beautiful plays, and giving people a chance to discuss it amongst each other. The ability to exchange ideas and opinions without anger or harm is vital to our ability to retain our humanity and grow as a society". And it is with that purpose that we forge into this summer at Theatricum. We are going to keep the conversation going. And these plays explore the ways we find to truly listen before putting forth our own agenda, respect the perception of those around us, see the humanity in our fellow human beings, and find the love that conquers all. It promises to be an eye-opening exploration, we are excited to share it with you.

And once again, this year, we are proud to announce the recipient of our annual Will Geer Humanitarian Award (WGHA), Paul Robeson. His talents were many and his achievements almost unthinkable in his own time. He graduated with honors from Rutgers University and played professional football to help finance his way through Columbia Law School. After practicing law briefly, he started a 3rd profession as an actor and for decades starred on stage and in films. His unique and powerful voice led him once again on to another career path and he became an internationally acclaimed singer touring Europe and the United States. His resume was impressive even by today's standards, but truly remarkable, was that as an African-American man, he accomplished all of these things in a segregated America. As his fame increased, his natural sense of justice and his own experience with prejudice and racism spurred his activism and he found himself using that magnificent voice beyond the stage, and for the cause of social justice.

We are fortunate to claim connection with him in our Theatricum history, as he was a friend and contemporary of Ella Bloor, a fellow activist and grandmother of our founding mother, Herta Ware. We have all benefited from his pioneering accomplishments as both an artist and as a member of our human family. The WGHA was created to celebrate individuals like him and its previous recipients (2016, Haskell Wexler, and 2015, Earl Hammer, Jr.) They embody and exemplify the precepts on which Theatricum was founded. From the very beginning, Will and Herta had a vision of Theatricum as a sanctuary and a home for the arts. Our guiding principle is apparent in the words of our founder, "[We] are aiming to elevate, educate and entertain audiences of all ages by passing on a sense of history... for the great works of art inform the present and inspire the future." The intent and spirit of that ideal is our driving force and as we look ahead and focus on the fulfillment of that ultimate goal. Thank you for joining us on the journey.



The Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum

We Welcome Your Feedback

We are interested in what interests you...
Leave your feedback in a brief survey on our website
and help us continue to offer the very best in live
theatre and entertainment.

And as a 'Thank You' for your participation, you will
receive a discount code for 30% off your next Repertory
performance ticket purchase for our 2017 Season.



Visit: <http://theatricum.com/feedback>

Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum
presents

FAMILY FUNDAYS

Featuring

Peter Alsop's Kids Concerts (KK)
Performances at 10:30 am - Tickets \$10
&
Creative Playground
Performances at 11 am - Tickets \$9
Make this series a family favorite.

Groups and birthday parties available!
Purchase tickets online, thru our Box Office at 310-455-3723
or just come on by!

6/4 Aesop's Fables (CPG)

6/11 Ferdinand the Bull (CPG)

6/18 The Legends of King Arthur (CPG)

6/25 The Velveteen Rabbit (CPG)

7/15 (Sat) Three Tales by Hans Christian Andersen (CPG)

7/16 Auntie Kayte (KK)

7/30 Justin Roberts (KK)

8/19 (Sat) The Legends of King Arthur (CPG)

8/20 Mark Lewis & the KITE Kids (KK)

8/27 Evo Bluestein's Barnyard Dance (KK)

9/10 Love Bug & Me (KK)

9/17 Peter Alsop (KK)

9/24 Rhythm Child (KK)

10/1 Ferdinand the Bull (CPG)

10/8 The Velveteen Rabbit (CPG)

10/15 Aesop's Fables (CPG)

10/22 Halloween Stories (CPG)



For more details check out <http://theatricum.com/family-fundays>
or go to www.peteralsop.com
or www.creativeplayground.org.

LEGEND:		Saturday		Sunday	
Merchant = The Merchant of Venice		June 3		June 4	
Dream = A Midsummer Night's Dream		*Merchant 7:30pm		*Dream 3:30pm	
Farm = The Play of George Orwell's Animal Farm		June 10		June 1	
Cities = Other Desert Cities		Merchant 7:30pm		Dream 3:30pm	
Trouble = Trouble in Mind		June 17		June 18	
O = Performances in S. Mark Taper Foundation Pavilion		Merchant 3:30pm		Dream 3:30pm	
P = Prologue Discussions		*Farm 7:30pm			
D = Dinner & A Show		June 24		June 25	
* Denotes Opening		Merchant 3:30pm Farm 7:30pm		Dream 3:30pm	
Thursday	Friday				
June 22	June 23				
June 29	June 30				
TUESDAY, July 4 2017 Family Barn Dance 11am-5pm	July 7	July 8	July 9	July 10	July 11
	Off The Grid 8:00pm-O	Merchant 3:30pm	Dream 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Dream 3:30pm
		*Cities 7:30pm	Merchant 7:30pm	Merchant 7:30pm	Merchant 7:30pm
	July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18
		Merchant 3:30pm-P	Dream 3:30pm	Dream 3:30pm	Dream 3:30pm
		Cities 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm
	July 21	July 22	July 23	July 24	July 25
July 27	July 28	July 29	July 30	July 31	Aug 1
	Off The Grid 8:00pm-O	Cities 3:30pm	Farm 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm
		*Trouble 7:30pm	Trouble 7:30pm	Trouble 7:30pm	Trouble 7:30pm
Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6	Aug 7	Aug 8
Dream 7:30pm-D	Farm 7:30pm	Cities 3:30pm-P	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm
		Trouble 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm
Aug 10	Aug 11	Aug 12	Aug 13	Aug 14	Aug 15
Dream 7:30pm-D	Trouble 7:30pm	Farm 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm
		Merchant 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm
Aug 17	Aug 18	Aug 19	Aug 20	Aug 21	Aug 22
Dream 7:30pm-D		Merchant 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm
		Farm 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm
Aug 24	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28	Aug 29
Dream 7:30pm-D	Off The Grid 8:00pm-O	Farm 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm
		Cities 7:30pm	Trouble 7:30pm	Trouble 7:30pm	Trouble 7:30pm
Aug 31	Sept 1	Sept 2	Sept 3	Sept 4	Sept 5
	Under The Oaks 8:00pm-O	Merchant 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm-P	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm
	Red Channels	Farm 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm
	Sept 8	Sept 9	Sept 10	Sept 11	Sept 12
	Under The Oaks 8:00pm-O	Cities 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm
	Composer Collective	Trouble 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm
	Sept 15	Sept 16	Sept 17	Sept 18	Sept 19
	Under The Oaks 8:00pm-O	Trouble 3:30pm	Farm 3:30pm	Farm 3:30pm	Farm 3:30pm
	Alsoop4Adults	Cities 7:30pm	Merchant 7:30pm	Merchant 7:30pm	Merchant 7:30pm
	Sept 22	Sept 23	Sept 24	Sept 25	Sept 26
	Under The Oaks 8:00pm-O	Merchant 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm	Trouble 3:30pm
	Those Who Rise	Farm 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm	Cities 7:30pm
	From Dr. King to Michelle Obama				
Sept 28	Sept 29	Sept 30	Oct 1	Oct 2	Oct 3
	Off The Grid 8:00pm-O	Trouble 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm	Merchant 3:30pm
		Cities 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm	Farm 7:30pm

The Merchant of Venice

By William Shakespeare

Time: 1500's

Place: Venice and Belmont, Italy

Cast (in alphabetical order):

Nerissa	Susan Angelo*
Balthasar	Tavis L. Baker
Shylock	Alan Blumenfeld*
Duke	P.L. Brown*
Leonardo / Jailor	Peter Magnus Curry
Clerk	David Faulkner
Portia	Willow Geer*
Salanio	Bradley Gosnell
Gratiano	Tim Halligan*
Tubal	Kevin Hudnell
Aragon	Nima Jafari
Prince of Morocco(alt)	Max Lawrence*
Jessica	Maia Luer
Launcelot	Melora Marshall*
Salerio	Kelvin Morales
Lorenzo	Dane Oliver*
Antonio	Franc Ross*
Bassanio	Colin Simon*
Prince of Morocco (alt)	Rav Val Denegro*
Salarino	Christopher Wallinger

Ensemble: Olivia Berumen Evangeline Edwards, Bethany Koulias, Jordana Lilly, Laura Zenoni

Understudies: Tavis L. Baker, Olivia Berumen, Maya Brattkus, Ata Farhadi, Julia Finch, Max Lawrence*, Jordana Lilly, Kelvin Morales, Larson Rainier, Cameron Rose, Brant Rotnem, Rav Val Denegro*, Christopher Wallinger, Christopher Yarrow, Laura Zenoni

Creative Team:

Director	Ellen Geer
Assistant Director(s)	Jackie Nicole, Cameron Rose
Stage Manager	Elna Kordjian*
Assistant Stage Manager	Karen Osborne
Costume Designer	Beth Glasner
Wardrobe Supervisor	Beth Glasner
Properties Master	Sydney Russell
Sound Designer	Marshall McDaniel
Original Music	Marshall McDaniel
Lighting Designer	Zachary Moore
Lighting Associate	Skylar Johnson

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

Director's Notes

Venice, Italy in the 1500's. A remarkable play that seems to stir up controversy in any century. Presenting it today sheds myths it has always had attached to it from the past. We see reigning; an extremely wealthy society, rabid religious intolerance, isolated immigrants, social injustice, resulting in a country that cares little about the diverse and beautiful whole, but only fights for their own little corner. Everyone secure in their reason to behave so. Unity ceases.

There will be one 10-minute intermission



Education Programs

Academy of the Classics and School Programs

Education has been central to Theatricum's mission since Will Geer began the company over 40 years ago. The idea of passing on a love of language, poetry, art and nature to the next generation is a closely held core value of the organization which it realizes through diverse programs.

The Academy of the Classics offers classes for youth (4-14 years); teens (15-18 years) and adults year-round. Students seeking to expand their knowledge of Shakespeare, love of language, experience in theatre, or professional ability are provided a nurturing environment to learn and grow as artists and human beings.

Theatricum's School Programs have been serving PK-12th grade students since 1978 through the School Days Field Trip Program and Classroom Enrichment - a diverse menu of in-school enrichment including workshops, residencies and assemblies.

The Repertory offers multiple opportunities for life-long and continuing learning including the Family Theatre workshops, Family Stories and Internship programs.

For more information about Theatricum's Nationally recognized Education Programs, click "Education" on our website www.theatricum.com.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

A Midsummer Night's Dream

by William Shakespeare

Time: Ancient Greece

Place: Athens, the surrounding forest, and the fairy kingdom

Cast (in alphabetical order):

Puck
Theseus
Quince
Helena
Philstrate
Cobweb
Hermia
Egeus
Bottom
Starveling
Moth
1st Fairy/Peaseblossom
Snout
Oberon
Snug
1st Fairy/Mustardseed
Flute
Lysander
Hippolyta
Demetrius
Titania

Lily Bleu Andrew*
Jonathan Blandino*
Christine Breihan*
Rosemary Brownlow
Bridgette Campbell
Page de la Harpe
Kaitlyn Fae
Ata Farhadi
Christopher W. Jones*
Cindy Guastafarro
Margaret Kelly
Bethany Koulias
Timothy McCray
Michael McFall*
Kelvin Morales
Kacie Rogers
Cameron Rose
Brant Rotnem
Clare Snodgrass
Paul Stanko
Elizabeth Tobias*

Ensemble:

Amazones
Lords
Fairies
Changeling Child

Natalie Beisner, Tessa Brennan,
Evangeline Edwards, Jordann Zbylski,
Lauren Zbylski
Jarrod Bogan, Peter Magnus Curry,
Casey Maione, Matt Mallory,
Matt Pardue, Larson Rainier
Maya Brattkus, Hero Duenyas,
Aurora Faye Gaines, Chloe Gaines,
Toby Luce, Quinnlyn Scheppner
Katherine Wiseman, Madelyn Wiseman

Understudies: Natalie Beisner, Jonathan Blandino*, Christine Breihan*,
Bridgette Campbell, Peter Magnus Curry, Max Lawrence*, Jordana Lilly,
Maia Luer, Matt Mallory, Melora Marshall*, Kelvin Morales, Matt Pardue,
Larson Rainier, Kelsey Sutton

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

Creative Team:

Director
Assistant Director
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Costumer
Wardrobe Supervisor
Sound Designer
Lighting Designer
Lighting Associate

Melora Marshall
Jonathan Blandino
Kim Cameron*
Kelvin Morales
Beth Glasner
Beth Glasner
Ian Flanders
Zachary Moore
Skylar Johnson

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

Directors' Notes

Three separate worlds unfold: First, the elegant court of Duke Theseus and his betrothed Amazon, Hippolyta, where a father's tyranny drives passionate young lovers to escape into the forest outside Athens. Next we meet some tradespeople, "hard-handed men" of the town, planning to perform a theatrical piece at the royal wedding. Last is the fairy kingdom where Oberon and Titania battle over a human child. Oberon's jealousy and its resultant turmoil ignite chaos in the human world by turning nature's seasons upside down.

A Midsummer Night's Dream blossoms in Theatrum Botanicum (theatre in the garden). There are more plants mentioned in this play than in any other of Shakespeare's plays, and through the years it's not surprising that *Dream* returns to our stage time and again. It appeals to all ages and is the ideal introduction to the Bard's wonderful world of language, character and storytelling. Classical actors pursue this play again and again throughout their careers, striving like Bottom, to play all the parts.



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37th Annual
Topanga
Nutra Ballet
this December
8, 9, 10

BALLET

FOR TOPANGA

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- ❖ Classical ballet training in a warm, loving, nurturing and supportive environment
- ❖ Classes for all ages
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Artistic Director: Sherry Jason
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the play of George Orwell's

Animal Farm

adapted by Peter Hall

lyrics by Adrian Mitchell and music by Richard Peaslee

Time: Once Upon A Time

Place: Rural England

*This production of Animal Farm is made possible, in part, by a grant from
The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation.*

Cast (in alphabetical order):

Moses
Mr. Jones / Dog
Girl
Old Major / Pilkington
Clover
Minimus
Benjamin
Boxer
Napoleon
Mollie / Mr. Whymper
Squealer
Boy
Muriel
Snowball
Clayton Cook
Steve Fisher*
Sierra Rose Friday
Thad Geer*
Katherine Griffith*
Holly Hawk
Rodrick Jean-Charles
Max Lawrence*
Mark Lewis*
Lea Madda
Melora Marshall*
Shane McDermott
Jackie Nicole*
Christopher Yarrow

Ensemble: Maya Brattkus, Caleb Blue Briskman, Evangeline Edwards, David Faulkner, Jessica Gillette, Bethany Koulias, Casey Maione, Jeffrey McFarland, Matt Pardue, Clarence Powell, Larson Rainier, Cameron Rose, Jacquelin Schofield, Alexander Sheldon, Jonathan Sheldon, Sky Wahl, Jordann Zbyski, Lauren Zbyski

Band: Caleb Blue Briskman, David Faulkner, Jessica Gillette, Holly Hawk, Bethany Koulias, Jeffrey McFarland, Matt Pardue, Cameron Rose, Alexander Sheldon, Jonathan Sheldon, Daniel Sugimoto**, Sky Wahl,

Understudies: Maya Brattkus, Caleb Blue Briskman, Bridgette Campbell, Evangeline Edwards, Greg Hilfman, Jeffrey McFarland, Clarence Powell, Jacquelin Schofield, Alexander Sheldon, Kelsey Sutton

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

**Pianist

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

Creative Team:

Director
Assistant Director(s)
Animal Movement
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Costume Designer
Wardrobe Supervisor
Properties Master
Sound Designer
Music Director
Lighting Designer
Lighting Associate

Ellen Geer
Jackie Nicole, Andrea Fiorentini
Lexi Pearl
Kim Cameron*
Sydney Russell
Vicki Conrad
Beth Glasner
Ernest McDaniel
Marshall McDaniel
Marshall McDaniel
Zachary Moore
Skylar Johnson

Director's Notes:

A poignant tale told by young children, which reveals a gritty fable of revolution and power unchecked. Through its deceptive simplicity, Orwell makes difficult situations and ideas accessible. Without careful watching, it is a continuing phenomenon, no matter what the dream.



LAYNE

Proprietor: Chef Layne L. Sanden

Full Service Catering

latartboy@yahoo.com

Other Desert Cities

by Jon Robin Baitz

Time: Christmas, 2004

Place: Palm Springs, California

Cast (in alphabetical order):

Lyman
Polly
Barbara
Trip
Silda

Mark Bramhall*
Ellen Geer*
Willow Geer*
Rafael Goldstein*
Melora Marshall*

Creative Team:

Director
Assistant Director
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Production Assistant
Costume Designer
Wardrobe Supervisor
Properties Master
Sound Designer
Original Music
Lighting Designer
Lighting Associate
Set Designer
Stage Crew

Mary Jo DuPrey
Jonathan Blandino
Elna Kordijan*
Karen Osborne
Nima Jafari
Vicki Conrad
Beth Glasner
Sydney Russell
Marshall McDaniel
Marshall McDaniel
Zachary Moore
Skylar Johnson
Rich Rose
Brant Rotnem, Casey Maione,
Matt Pardue, Peter Magnus Curry

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

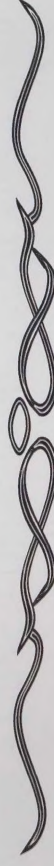
Director's Notes

With so much political division in our country today, it is easy to forget how personally affecting these divisions can be in our daily lives. When cable news callously reduces the most important political debate to a somewhat entertaining reality show, we, as a society, can forget that the many issues at the forefront of our current political conversation, will indeed, find their way into our living rooms, our offices, and our bedrooms. What is at stake in the questions facing our country today will deeply affect all of us in the most intimate ways. If we can get past the noise of raging ideology, we can, hopefully remember that, for most of us, the political is, indeed, deeply personal, and in that remembrance maintain our compassion and humanity.

In the internet age, it can be facile to demonize and stereotype those who see political issues from a different perspective than our own, and it is, admittedly difficult not to do so. We have tolerated profit driven institutions and a consolidated media that have shamefully confused news with entertainment, to cast a dark shadow on those with different views than our own, reducing their concerns to a cliché and forgetting that, ultimately, once you get past the extremist outliers in any one group, most people are simply driven by the need to protect their family and follow their dreams of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." How that pursuit is defined between one person and another may be vastly different, but in "Other Desert Cities" Jon Robin Baitz painstakingly reminds us that people are complex creatures, and can never be singularly defined.

How we love each other, how we find meaning in our lives, and how we ultimately defined who we are as human beings is as intricate as nature itself. I hope that this play reminds us all to not forget that simple human truth as we, as a country, confront the next chapters of the American dream.

There will be one 10-minute intermission.



OTHER DESERT CITIES

Trouble in Mind

by Alice Childress

Time: 1950's
Place:

Cast (in alphabetical order):

Judy
Henry
Bill O'Wray
John
Manners
Millie
Willette
Sheldon
Eddie

Judy Durkin
Rodrick Jean-Charles
Christopher W. Jones*
Max Lawrence*
Mark Lewis*
Constance Jewell Lopez*
Earnestine Phillips*
Gerald C. Rivers*
Frank Weidner*

Understudies: Rodrick Jean-Charles, Clarence Powell, Jacquelin Schofield

Creative Team:

Director
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Costume Designer
Wardrobe Supervisor
Properties Master
Sound Designer
Lighting Designer
Lighting Associate

Ellen Geer
Kim Cameron*
Daisy Navarro
Robert Merkel
Beth Glasner
Sydney Russell
Ian Flanders
Zachary Moore
Skylar Johnson

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

Director's Notes:

Time? 1950's. Pre civil rights.
Place? A theatre.
What? Actors rehearsing a new melodrama about a Southern lynching.
Who? Henry, an old stage door man.
Willette; a powerful black actress who stops settling to what is.
Millie; Thank God she has a job, a rarity for black actresses.
Sheldon; African American actor who has seen it all, and expects no change.
Bill O'Wray; A white unaware racist leading man.
Judy; An ingénue jarred into the reality of her world.
John; A burgeoning black actor, trying to play the game to survive.
Al Manners; A white Director who explodes and exposes his own racism.
Eddie; A cowed assistant to the Director.

We watch and absorb this combination of beautifully written human beings realizing and being forced to re evaluate who they are, and how they truly think in a racist culture. A powerful piece that affects us today.



Bring a Little "Theatricum" Home for the Holidays

Make your holiday party the most unique and memorable of any this season by adding a little Medieval entertainment! A small band of Theatricum players will arrive at your home, office or meeting hall, decked out in period costume and perform the 13th Century "miracle" play, *The Legend of St. George and the Dragon*.

It is a short tale, but one full of daring, honor, mystery and love... and with a happy ending. Troupes of players performing folktales, known as Mummings, are a centuries old tradition and offer a special flavor of old world charm and festivity to any gathering. To inquire about booking Theatricum Mummings, send an email to: info@theatricum.com or call 310.455.2322.





MESSENGER Mountain News

The voice of the Santa Monica Mountains
www.messengermountainnews.com

TROUBLE IN MIND

~ Under the Oaks ~

Benefit Performances in the S. Mark Taper Foundation Pavilion

Spend those balmy summer nights under the oaks and under the stars, in an intimate setting for an eclectic variety of artistic expression and entertainment.

Red Channels – September 1

Enjoy a rare opportunity to experience an evening of chamber music featuring works written by blacklisted composers performed by preeminent artists from the LA chamber music scene.

Composer's Collective – September 8

Theatricum's own resident composer, Marshall McDaniels, brings together some of the of the entertainment industry's most prominent contemporary musical scorers of TV, film and stage to perform original works and world premiere musical compositions.

Alsop 4 Adults – September 15

Leave the kids at home and join us for a delightfully funny evening of songs with that unique Peter Alsop perspective on every aspect of the condition of being human. Performers include an eclectic array of his friends: actors, songwriters, bands, comedians, storytellers, and maybe even Peter himself.

Laughing Together Makes The World Better.

Those Who Rise: from Dr. King to Michelle Obama – September 22

This original collaborative work celebrates the rich and vast landscape of the contribution of African Americans to our country's history, music, literature, art, theatre, science, politics and social advancements. It is a journey that will enlighten, inform, uplift and inspire!

All Under the Oaks series performances are on Friday nights at 8pm

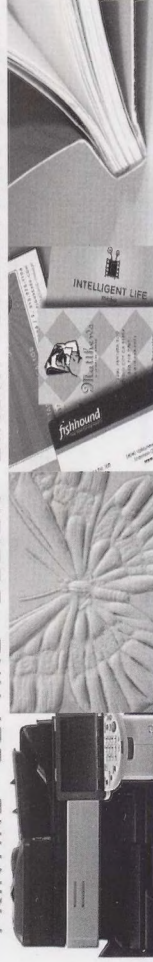
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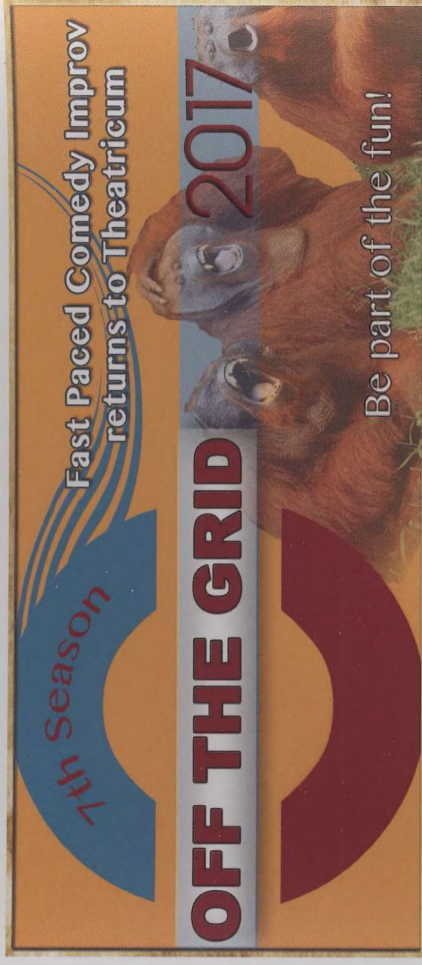
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Off the Grid Comedy Improv

June 30, July 28, August 25 and September 29
All Shows at 8pm ~ General Admission: \$10

Take a trip away from the daily grind and city pace to the wide open space of the Santa Monica Mountains and the comedy of Theatricum Botanikum's resident improv troupe, *Off The Grid*. You'll feel the stress and strain waft away as our cast of modern-day vaudevillians work out the kinks and knots of the mid-week tension. It's like a laugh-filled spa day for your psyche... and an evening you can share with the whole family.



Botanicum Seedlings

A Development Series for Playwrights

FREE Playreadings Sundays, August 20th & 27th at 11am

At Theatricum, playwrights are nurtured by dedicated theatre artists and adventurous arts lovers who become part of the process. Join us as two exciting new plays come to life in staged playreadings with refreshments and audience feedback.

Are you a writer who's ready to take that play (or screenplay!) out of the drawer and into the fresh air?

Visit www.theatricum.com/seedlings for info about Playreadings, Workshops & Dramaturgy.



Theatricum Botanikum actively supports the goals of the LA Female Playwrights Initiative to ensure that women playwrights are fairly represented on stages in the Greater Los Angeles area.

Tan of the Seventh Day

.....be touched by the magic

Bring your Theatricum tickets to receive a 10% discount or take your dinner stub for the same at the theater.

A wonderful place to stop by for a cappuccino or a scrumptious dessert after the show or perhaps an early dinner before heading off to the theatre. We hope that experiencing the dynamic environment and food at the Inn will help make your evening at the Theatricum even more pleasant. Be prepared for the extraordinary.

310.455.1311

128 Old Topanga Cyn Rd. Topanga, 90290 innoftheseventhday.com

~ Special Engagements ~

Benefit Performances on our Mainstage

Stars & Shakespeare Saturday, October 7

For one night only, the Theatricum stage will be graced by a host of celebrity guests joining our Company members for a unique performance of selected scenes from Shakespeare's plays. It promises to be a one-of-a-kind experience, not to be missed!

Inara George and Friends Saturday, October 21

The acclaimed singer/songwriter, a hometown Topangan, shares the stage with an exciting musical lineup of guest artists in this annual concert event.

~ Theatricum Enhancements ~

Add-On Options for Selected Mainstage Repertory Performances

Dinner & A Play

Enjoy a delectable buffet in our gardens prior to selected performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Chef, Layne Sanden creates a unique meal with the theme, *Fairies Meadow Lands Feast*.

Reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance, online or by calling the box office at (310) 455-3723. Seating is limited. For dates and menus, visit www.theatricum.com/dinner-and-a-play.

Prologue Discussions

Meet the directors and cast in the theatre an hour before the show for a casual "question-and-answer" session. Learn more about the challenges faced in crafting the production. Hear more about how an actor develops a character – whether hero or villain. Listen to some behind-the-scenes stories and then enjoy the performance with new insight into its creation!

Available for selected performances.

Free to all ticket holders. See Season Calendar for dates.

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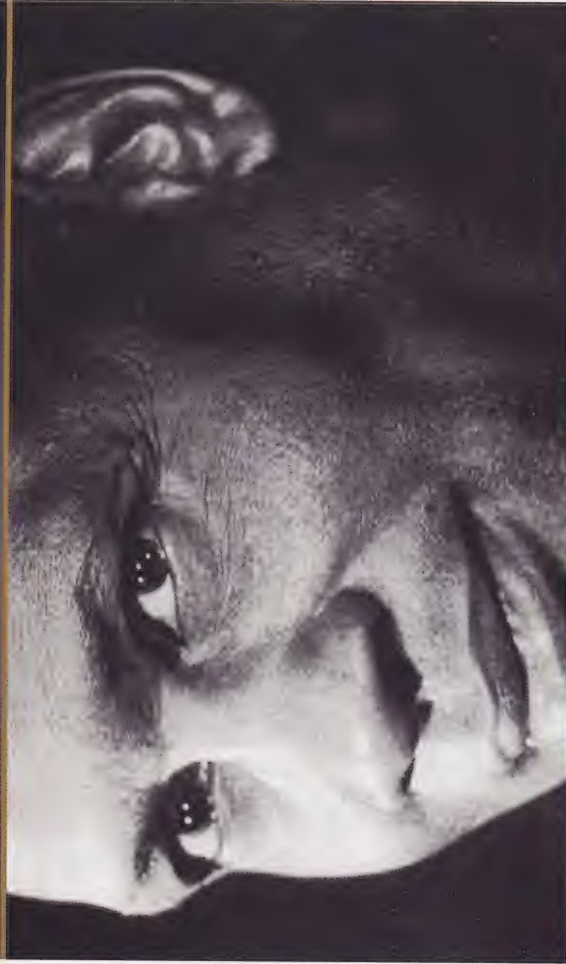
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of *Trouble in Mind*)



info and details:
theatricum.com/wg-humanitarian-award

~ Timeless Traditions ~

Theatricum Holiday Celebrations - Family Style

Theatricum '4th of July' Family Barn Dance

Tuesday, July 4th, 11am - 5pm

It's 3rd annual all-out Americana Hoedown! Celebrate Independence Day on the wooded grounds of Theatricum Botanicum as our family hosts your families with a bevy of traditional fun and games. Enjoy horseshoes, water balloon toss, pie eating contest, relay races, face painting, BBQ and fixins', musical performances...and much more. You can even join in for cake walking and barn dancing on our mainstage!



Theatricum BOO-tanicum

Saturday, October 28th, 4pm - 10pm

Theatricum Botanicum transforms into the haunted BOO-tanicum with the theatre company's seventh annual Halloween extravaganza, highlighted by its unique and infamous Haunted House. Enjoy the tricks and treats of the season on our wooded grounds with a host of enticements including ghost stories, game booths, festive food and libations, and much more! Beware of zombie thespians! Come on down... if you dare.



Artist Bios

Lily Bleu Andrew* has been coming to the Theatricum Botanicum her whole life, and is in her seventh season in the repertory company. She has played Scout in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Eva in *Tom* and is now Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. @LilyBleuAndrew.

Susan Angelo* At Theatricum, she last played Barbara (*August: Osage County*); Beatrice (*Much Ado About Nothing*); director (*The Royal Family*; *My Name is Rachel Corrie*). At A Noise Within, Hannah (*Arcadia*); Alice (*Dance of Death*). Susan has performed in regional theatres, film, television and commercials.

Tavis L. Baker: Regional Theatre: *Eurydice*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Dial M' For Murder*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Wizard of Oz*. Feature Films: *Elbow Grease* (2016), *Elbow grease Productions*, *Midnight Runner* (2017, J. Mathis Films), *Scatter* (2016, Macabre Productions). Tavis resides in Los Angeles.

Natalie Beisner is delighted to be making her debut at Theatricum. She has toured with Shakespeare by the Sea (*The Tempest*, *As You Like It*), and last summer she appeared with Looseleaf Theatre Co. (*Romeo & Juliet*). She received her BFA from Cal State Fullerton.

Olivia Berumen: Theatre/Opera: Interlochen, Tanglewood Institute, CSUN Opera Theatre, Angels Vocal Art, The Celestial Opera Company, Opera San Jose. Education/Training: BM, Vocal Performance - California State University, Northridge.

Jonathan Blandino* is a Graduate of Point Park University and Pittsburgh native, is proud to be back at WGTB. In addition to performing in his 9th season with Theatricum, Jonathan also manages the Acting Internship and Apprenticeship Program. Past credits include: *Lear*; *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Romeo and Juliet*.

Alan Blumenfeld* has been a proud member of the Theatricum company since 1985. Company member at A Noise Within. Regional and Broadway credits. More than 300 Guest Stars and dozens of films, www.alanblumenfeld.com.

Jarrod Bogan is thrilled to be acting in his first season at Theatricum. He hails from Texas and has acted as The Emcee in *Cabaret*, as Phillip in *Orphans*, and a slew of other productions.

Mark Bramhall* has performed professionally for 50+ years, with ACT, CTG, off-Broadway, regionally, and on most SoCal stages—including Theatricum's (*Blithe Spirit*; *Hunchback of Notre Dame*). Honors: LADCC, LA Weekly, Ovation, Garland and Dramalogue awards; multiple VO industry awards for over 300 audiobooks. www.markbramhall.com.

Maya Bratikus is interning and performing for the first time on the Theatricum stage and couldn't be happier! She is currently working towards her BFA in acting at California Institute of the Arts, and hopes to one day open a theatre strictly for felines.

Christine Breihan* works in TV, film, and the LA theater community with companies including A Noise Within, Ghost Road Theater Ensemble, Theater of NOTE, and The Fountain Theater Company. This is her eighth season with Theatricum and she's proud to call it her artistic home.

Tessa Brennan is delighted to be making her debut at Theatricum. With her formal education centered in science, Tessa trained at the Elizabeth Mestnik Acting Studio, UCB, and other various studios around LA to gain her chops. Outside of acting, Tessa also works as a writer and voice teacher.

Caleb Blue Briskman appeared as the Changeling Child in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and the understudy for Young Julius in *TOM*. He is thrilled to be back at Theatricum this season.

P.L. Brown* has traversed all areas of the business. Broadway *Showboat*, National Tours *J.C. Superstar*, Major Opera *Rigoletto*, Writing, Producing, Concerts, TV *The People vs OJ*, Film, and Commercials California Powerball, with recurring roles on *Walk the Frank*, *Brooklyn Nine Nine*, and *The Young and the Restless*.

Rosemary Brownlow: Theatricum debut! Rosemary has worked at lots of theatre companies with 3-4 letter acronyms, playing Rosalind, Viola, Quince, Snug, Lady Macduff, Witch 3, Tranio, Lady Montague, Lady Capulet, Margaret (the lady's maid, not the queen), and is revisiting Helena after 11 years. She would like to dedicate this performance to her spaniel, Clarinet. Proud UCI MFA.

Kim Cameron* has been running the show at Theatricum for a decade! When she's not creating order out of chaos behind the scenes, she is an attorney and Managing Partner at Bucher & Cameron LLP. Thanks, Mom, for always supporting your crazy daughter, wherever I go and whatever I do.

Bridgette J. Campbell: (SAG/AFTRA) is a comedian and voice-over actor in LA. Her proudest achievements are her marriage to Christopher (*The Merchant of Venice*) and new Baby Girl! Happy to be part of the Theatricum family. www.bridgettecampbellvo.com

Vicki Conrad received an Ovation nomination for last summer's *The Imaginary Invalid* and garnered the 2015 Ovation Award for Best Costume Design for *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Actors Co-op). Recent credits: *Lucky Stiff*, *Bee Luther-Hatchee*, *33 Variations*, *Next to Normal*, *110 in the Shade*, *The Learned Ladies* (LA Weekly & Ovation Nomination). www.vickiconraddesign.com

Clayton Cook is happy to return this season for *Animal Farm*. He has been in such Theatricum productions as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Lear*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Titus Andronicus*.

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Peter Magnus Curry is happy to be a member of the WGTB community this season while on hiatus from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he studies acting, film, poetry, and creative writing.

Page de la Harpe has been fortunate enough to perform in Hong Kong, South Africa, and now excitingly, Los Angeles. While acting has been her primary focus, she has also directed *The Brother/Sister Plays*, a trilogy by Oscar winner Tarell Alvin McCraney. More info at: www.pagedelaharpe.com

Hero Duenyas is happy to be back doing *A Midsummer Night's Dream* again. She saw her first Theatricum Dream show when she was five and has been coming every year since. She loves theater and also likes to draw, read, do martial arts, and snowboard.

Mary Jo DuPrey is thrilled to be returning to the Botanicum after directing last year's *The Imaginary Invalid* by Moliere and the critically acclaimed *August: Osage County*, for which she received the Ovation nomination for Best Director. Other Productions: Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike at International City Theater. What May Fall (Theater of Note, LA Weekly Pick of the Week and Broadway World Nominations), Jeffrey Archer's Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde, (Ovation and LA Weekly nominations, Polly Warfield Award), and In the Company of Jane Doe (Powerhouse Theater). Mary Jo is a faculty member at UCLA, where she directed Who is Selma Teller and Charles Mee's Big Love for the Graduate Program. B.A., Vassar College. MFA in Directing from UCLA. Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

Judy Durkin returns to the Theatricum stage for her seventh season after playing Juliet in last year's production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Theatricum highlights include Jean Fordham in *August: Osage County* and the Duke of York in *Richard III*. She sends love to her family, her sister Caitlin, and the wonderful Theatricum community.

On Stage! **CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE**

PRESENTS



May 19 - June 10



July 14 - August 13



September 8 - 30



October 14 - 22



November 17 - December 17

Tickets on sale now at the Box Office & Online!

Coming in 2018

THE CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Evangeline Edwards studies Narrative Studies and Theatre at the University of Southern California. This is her first summer at Theatricum! Evangeline thanks her family for their endless support, her friends for their humor, and her teachers for reminding her how to play.

Kaitlyn Fae has appeared in a number of musicals, including *The King and I*, *Aida*, *Spring Awakening*, *Barre: a pop opera*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *The Count of Monte Cristo*. This is her first Shakespeare production.

Ata Farhadi is relatively new to the world of acting and this is his first season performing with Theatricum. He is a graduate of Oxford University, where he studied Old and Middle English, and he is a die-hard fan of the Bard's sonnets.

Dave Faulkner: After a life spent in the successful pursuit of becoming a well-rounded humanist, Dave Faulkner was reborn in middle life as the actor he was always meant to be. He is grateful to have the opportunity to join this amazing company.

Julia Finch is in her second season with Theatricum Botanicum. Last year she appeared in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Finch is an apprentice and works in education. She is a member of The Attic Collective (@theatticcollective_la) and The Actors' Gang. BA: UC Santa Cruz.

Andrea Fiorentini is a young director and producer, and always on the hunt for a good project. "It is not the answer that enlightens, but the question" - Eugène Ionesco; andreafiorentini3x@gmail.com

Steve Fisher* is an actor, writer, producer and improviser who is thrilled to be back up the hill this summer. Past Theatricum: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Midsummer*, *As You Like It*, *Much Ado*. Education: USC, UCB, BADA, Williamstown. Proud member AEA.

Ian Flanders landed in a family of actors who fed his love for storytelling and play. As a teen, his discovery of improv opened a whole new world of creative expression, and offered him a unique way in which to carry on this tradition of play. He is the director of Theatricum's resident improv troupe, *Off The Grid*, and has been performing and teaching for over 25 years encouraging actors and civilians of all ages to peel off the layers and just pretend.

Sierra Rose Friday is a growing singer, dancer, and actor, proud to have been involved with Theatricum Youth Programs for 10 years and a member of Theatricum's company for 6 years. Sierra can also be seen performing in Move The World Dance Activism and Topanga Youth Services productions.

Aurora Faye Gaines has acted in many local theatrical productions and attended Theatricum summer camp and classes. She dances with Move The World Dance Activism troupe. She attended Parsons in NYC last summer and has been designing costumes and working to launch her own fashion line.

Chloe Gaines is a local Topanga fairy. She loves spending time at Theatricum, attending summer camps, classes and acting in the Botanicum haunted house. She also studies aerial arts, acts in productions with Topanga Youth Services, and dances with Move the World Dance Activism.

Ellen Geer* feels privileged to work with such fine people as those associated with Theatricum Botanicum. It continues to be rewarding in every way. Passing on what she knows about theatre and life and finding out what she doesn't know about theatre and life is her lifelong quest.

Thad Geer* has been with the theater since conception doing many plays and concerts along the way; he played young Tad Lincoln with Burgess Meredith at age 3 under the big sycamore on Theatricum's first stage.

Willow Geer* first graced the Theatricum stage as the Changeling Child at the age of two. She holds a UCLA theater degree and studied at the London Academy of Theater. She toured the world singing with the Bird and the Bee, picking up various TV and film credits along the way.

Beth Glasner is a veteran costume designer, having worked on over 100 plays, musicals, and movies. Some favorites have been *Romeo & Juliet* (at Theatricum), *The Mousetrap*, and *You Can't Take it With You*. Beth has won 10 awards for costume design. She welcomes this experience at Theatricum for her third year, as Costume Designer and Wardrobe Supervisor. "I want to thank my amazing Sunshine and my family for their encouragement, love, and patience." Bethdressed.com.

Rafael Goldstein* is a Resident Artist at A Noise Within Classical Repertory, and has performed for a great many years in many great plays. Most recently, he was in *Arcadia*, *All My Sons*, and *King Lear*. He won the LA Weekly Theater Award for playing Hamlet. He also voices many characters in a bunch of video games.

Bradley Gosnell is in his second year with Theatricum Botanicum. He wants to thank the company and cast for making this production so special. Enjoy the Show!

Katherine Griffith* has worked in 100+ venues: comedy clubs, prisons, TV, film, radio, Yale, DTW, the Public, La MaMa, Playwright's Horizon, Manhattan Theater Club, BAM, Dallas Theater Center, O'Neil Conference, Open Fist, Boston Court, Kirk Douglas. Award-winning playwright and solo performer. Works with at-risk kids through Theatre-of-Hearts. Juilliard graduate. At Theatricum since 2003.

Cindy Guastafarro: MFA Acting, USC. Theatricum's Youth/Teen Programs Manager and artist/educator. Theatricum - *Macbeth*, *Three Musketeers*, *Tone Clusters*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Richard III*. Other LA theatre - *Edmond*, *Women Behind Bars*, *Immaculate Heart*, *Bleacher Bums*, gender-reversed *Romeo & Juliet*.

Tim Halligan* is returning for a tenth season, recently in *TOM*, *August: Osage County*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Earlier this year performed in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* at Antaeus. Some TV and Film: *Mad Men*, *Scandal*, *Monk*, *Freedom Writers*, *Space Cowboys*.

Holly Hawk holds a double Bachelor of Arts, in Drama and English Literature, from the University of Washington. She is thrilled to make her Theatricum debut this season. Holly would like to thank her family, both two- and four-legged, for their unwavering support.

Kevin Hudnell is a graduate of AFT's Conservatory, currently divides his professional life between editing documentaries and acting. Kevin made his acting debut in the film *The Master* and is proud to be a member of this season's company.

Nima Jafari is back at Theatricum for his second season - also as an Apprentice. You may have seen him in *Romeo & Juliet* or *Titus Andronicus* last season. Nima is proud to be here with this cast and their arsenal of talents. Online @Nimactor.

Rodrick Jean-Charles is proud to returning for his second season at Theatricum. Credits include *My Children My Africa*, *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, and *A Raisin in the Sun*. He would like to thank Theatricum for the opportunity to act in such a meaningful production. Without God none of this would be possible.

Christopher W. Jones* is in his fourteenth season with WGTB. *Titus Andronicus*, *Lear*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Richard III*, *The Tempest*, *Macbeth*, *Julius Caesar*, *Antony & Cleopatra*, *As You Like It*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Dracula*.

Margaret Kelly is a recent graduate of the University of Southern California theatre program and extremely excited to make her Theatricum Botanicum debut! When she's not on stage, Margaret enjoys reading books, dancing, and exploring Los Angeles. Special thanks to Mom and Dad for everything!

Elna Kordijan* is back for her ninth season with Theatricum. She previously worked on *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *August: Osage County*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. When she's not stage managing, she's either baking or event designing for Arrows and Bliss Design.

Bethany Koulias is delighted to be working with such amazing people here this season. She graduated Magnum Cum Laude with a BA in Drama from the University of California, Irvine. She has studied and performed with the British American Dramatic Academy, as well as South Coast Repertory.

Max Lawrence* is a Silver Spring, Maryland native and a B.F.A. graduate of Ithaca College. He is grateful to be involved in his seventh season as a Theatricum Botanicum company member. For more, visit www.max-lawrence.com, and follow @_maxlawrence! Psalm 127:1

Mark Lewis* returns for his fifteenth Theatricum Season. He is humbly grateful to Ellen for sharing her brilliance with the world and inviting him to partake.

Jordana Lilly is a recent theatre graduate of Chapman University. There, she participated in a number of productions such as *RENT* and *The Merchant of Venice*. She is excited to be making her Theatricum debut this summer in *The Merchant of Venice* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Constance Jewell Lopez* Theatre: Deloris Van Cartier (*Sister Act*), Effie (*Dreamgirls*), Sofia (*The Color Purple*), Strawberry Woman (*Porgy and Bess*), Acid Queen (*Tommy*), BJ (*Smokey Joe's Cafe*). Television: *Famous In Love*, *The Office*, *Melissa & Joey*. Touring: Huey Lewis and the News. Thanks husband, Jaime Lopez. www.constancejewellopez.com

Toby Luce is performing in his fourth season at Theatricum. He enjoyed a three-season run as the Changeling Child in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and is very proud to be taking his first turn as a Fairy in this magical play.

Maia Luer is excited to return for her second season at Theatricum, both on and backstage. She is understudying in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and playing Jessica in *The Merchant of Venice*. Maia's also an apprentice this season under the costume department and young people's camp program.

Lea Madda is thrilled to be back for her second summer at TB! Lea recently completed her MFA in Acting at UCLA, and she also holds a BM in Voice from Boston University. Recent credits include *Three Sisters* (Olga), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Helena), and *Kiss Me Kate* (Lois). www.LeaMadda.com

Casey Maione is new to Theatricum, taking part in the internship program and playing in both *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Animal Farm*. He's excited and grateful to make magic in the hills of Topanga canyon. Blessed to be here, for life is but a walking shadow.

Matt Mallory: Classically trained, having studied at LAMDA and a former intern at Theatricum. He's incredibly grateful to be involved in this production. A special thanks to all who have supported him and his endeavors. Cheers!

Melora Marshall* has worked with her family and Theatricum from the beginning, acting, teaching and directing. She has performed at the Mark Taper Forum, Ahmanson, San Diego's Old Globe and South Coast Repertory, as well as in film and television.

Timothy Paul McCray: Originally from New York City, this is his 2nd year at Theatricum and his third production. He is currently in his final semester at the "Theatre Academy" at Los Angeles City College and is extremely excited and grateful for being part of this wonderful production.

Ernest McDaniel studied theatrical arts and design at L'École Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq - Paris, France. Stage/Film Credits: Lead Carpenter - National Tour *Raisin*, Art Director *Coin Laundry*, Property Master *One Half Gone*, and many other national/international productions. Awards: Best Set Design, Best Technical Director.

Marshall McDaniel literally grew up here at Theatricum. Piano at 4, cello at 12, many many orchestras, 8 years in Germany studying/playing cello professionally, composing classically as well as in Film/TV. He has written original music for Theatricum longer than he can remember.

Shane McDermott enjoyed his professional debut as Tiny Tim in A Noise Within's *Christmas Carol* followed by Theatricum's beloved production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In 2016 he appeared in Theatricum's *TOM* and *Titus Andronicus*. He's been a happy Theatricum Youth Academy student for five years.

Michael McFall* received the Veterans of Foreign Wars scholarship from VFW post 7906, played basketball for Henderson State University and is a graduate of the American Conservatory Theatre MFA /PTI program. Theater, Television and Film: Theatre Des Aminders de Paris, Utah Shakespeare, *ER*, *NYPD Blue*, *Made In America* and *Forrest Gump*.

Jeffrey McFarland hails from the San Francisco Bay Area. He studied theatre arts at UCLA and trained with the Actors' Gang. Of all roles he's played on stage, George in *Of Mice and Men* is his favorite. He is honored to be working at Theatricum Botanicum.

Robert Merkel is overjoyed to be designing costumes for a Theatricum Botanicum production. He is currently a student at California Institute of the Arts, where he is studying theatrical design.

Zachary Moore has lit everything from theater to dance to concerts to holiday spectacles to space station for a children's TV show and a roller coaster. He's very happy to spend another summer here under the oaks at Theatricum.

Kelvin Morales is an award winning actor from P.C.C. Since he began acting in High school he has appeared on numerous stages from The Lovelace Theatre in Beverly Hills to the Sexon Auditorium in Pasadena. He is thankful to be back at Theatricum for a second season.

Daisy Navarro is thankful for the opportunity to come back for the third summer at the Theatricum. She has previously worked on *August: Osage County* and *The Imaginary Invalid*. She would like to thank everyone at the University of Redlands and her family.

Jackie Nicole* is a Simi Valley native, CSUN grad, and a music/theatre educator. She is grateful to be back for her fourth summer! Past roles: *Hermia/A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Peter/Peter Pan*, *Maria/West Side Story*, *Antigone/Antigone*, *Jester's Wife/Arabian Nights*. www.jacquelinenicle.com.

Dane Oliver is a returning actor to the Theatricum stage. Notable roles have included Puck (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Sharpe (*Equivocation*), and Cordelion (*Lear*). Elsewhere, he most recently appeared as Posthumus (*Cymbeline*) at the Whitmore-Lindley Theatre and as Oberon in the Kingsmen Shakespeare Company's touring production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Karen Osborne has a B.Sc. Hon degree in Psychology from Brunel University, England. For 4 years she was Director of Operations for Tahoe Players Association, working on their school programs, running front of house and performing. She is thrilled to be back for a fourth season at Theatricum.

Matt Pardue started acting at the ripe age of 7. He's currently studying acting at California Institute of the Arts and just finished a year of Shakespeare training. It's his first year at Theatricum Botanicum, and he hopes to have many more.

Lexi Pearl grew up in Topanga California & has been performing since she was a child. She has worked as a dancer/ aerialist/ actor, with; Cirque Du Soleil, AntiGravity, Diavolo, LA Circus, Eye of Newt Circus, Dream World Cirque, Wonder World, Cirque Berzerk & the Theatricum Botanicum, on stage, screen & television. Lexi has performed throughout the world; Japan, China, Brazil, Italy, Bahamas, Mexico, Canada & all over the US.

Earnestine Phillips* is a longtime member of Theatricum's Repertory and a three-time NAACP Theatre Award winner for *The Tempest*, *As You Like It*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Her television appearances include *Speechless*, *The Mindy Project*, *Southland*, *Desperate Housewives*, *Glee*, *Bones*, *ER* and *The Shield*. Thank you, Ellen for another season!



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Clarence Powell is from the south side of Chicago. He spent 22 years in the Navy. A proud graduate of Los Angeles City College Theatre Academy. He was last seen at Theatricum as Quimbo in *TOM*.

Larson Rainier is delighted to make his Theatricum debut this season. A Seattle native, Larson moved to LA two years ago to pursue degrees in acting and political science at USC. He thanks his family, friends and teachers for helping him reach this point.

Gerald C. Rivers* has been a Theatricum Company member for over twenty years and is a recognized Actor & Voiceover Artist. Heard in Disney's *The Lion Guard* TV Series and Tobacco Free Florida commercials. Known as "The Voice of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." he inspires audiences across the country.

Kacie Rogers received her classical training at AMDA. Since graduating she has starred in many plays in the greater Los Angeles area such as *No Place to be Somebody* at the Robey Theatre Company, *White Guy on the Bus* at The Road Theatre, and most recently, *Fefu and Her Friends* at Circle X Theatre Company.

Cameron Rose is excited to be returning for his third summer at Theatricum Botanicum. He is a graduate of the PCPA actor training program, a producing director with Project Nonguenue, and showrunner for the comedy podcast *Life, Stories, Now!*

Rich Rose latest designs include *Judgment at Nuremberg*, *In the Heat of the Night* (Nat'l Tours - LA Theatre Works); *American Idiot*, *Floyd Collins*, *Spring Awakening* (La Mirada); *Our Town*, *Summer and Smoke* (Actor's Co-op); *Memphis* (AMDA). Rich is a professor of set design at UCLA. www.richrosedesign.com

Franc Ross* previously appeared in Theatricum's *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The School for Scandal*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Equivocation* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. He graduated from American Conservatory Theatre's MFA program, and has numerous regional and Los Angeles area theater credits. A full resume can be viewed at <http://www.imdb.me/francross>.

Brant Rotnem is overjoyed to join Theatricum for his first season. Credits: *The Tempest* (SBTS), *Titus Andronicus* (Cal Shakes), *Soldier's Play* (Santa Monica Playhouse), *Legacy* (Scratch Night, London), *Beautiful Thing* (New Conservatory Theater, SF). Brant has a BA from UC Berkeley, and has studied at ACT and with Howard Fine.

Sydney Russell is celebrating her second season with Theatricum. During the school year, she is a Scenic Artist and Stage Manager at Viewpoint School, and holds a BFA in Theatre Design & Production with emphasis in Scenic Design & Scenic Art from Oklahoma City University.

Quinnlyn Rose Scheppner: This is Quinnlyn's first show with Theatricum. She is excited to be a part of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She loves the play, and also loves animals and singing. She believes in Fairies.

Jacquelin Schofield is in her first season with WGTB and she is thrilled and very grateful for the opportunity to work with such a well-respected company. She is Brooklyn bred, an Ovation Award Winner, an NAACP Theatre Award Nominee, and an amazing home chef. #icandoallthings thruchrist #livetheateriseverything #alltheworldsstage

Alexander Sheldon is proud to serve in his second season at Theatricum, where he was brought up as an actor through childhood. Though Shakespeare is his first love, he is also a director, mask maker, and an original member of the Wallis Youth Theatre Company.

Jonathan Sheldon is excited to play violin for this production of *Animal Farm* after nine years as a violinist in the Topanga and Beach Cities symphonies. Outside of Theatricum life, he is an active member of the rock & soul band Ludwig Van.

Colin Simon* is in his sixth season with Theatricum. He is thrilled to be back on the stage this year working with the Geer family. Past performances included Claudio (*Measure for Measure*), Claudio (*Much Ado*), Orlando (*As You Like It*), and Demetrius (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*).

Clare Snodgrass is a graduate of The Second City Conservatory and UCLA. She is on Second City's house sketch team, Winnebago. This is her first production with Theatricum. Shoutout to her Mom, Dad and extended family for their continued love and support.

Paul Stanko hails from the mountains of Colorado. He is ecstatic to be making his Theatricum debut as Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* this season. Everyone here is awesome. He loves you, therefore pursue him. www.stankoforever.com

Kelsey Sutton is excited to return to Theatricum! Some previous credits: *Oklahoma!*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Into the Woods*, *Les Misérables*, member of the original cast of *Why Do You Stand There in the Rain?* Edinburgh Fringe and Scottish National Tour. B.A. Pepperdine Theatre & Music.

Elizabeth Tobias* is performing in her twenty-second season at Theatricum beginning as a sprite in 1995's *The Tempest*. She has also performed at Pasadena Playhouse, Laguna Playhouse, and Getty Villa (among others) as well as on numerous TV episodes (*Bones*, *Aquarius*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Dexter*) and commercials. She is Co-Artistic Director of Creative PlayGround, Education Director at Theatricum, a recipient of a 2008 Women in Theatre Award, and a member of AEA and SAG-AFTRA.

Rav Val Denegro* thanks Ellen Geer. Winner: Breakout Action Star Award, Action On Film Festival. Film/Television: *Devil in Details*, *Taxi Wallah*. Regional, London, Off-Broadway Theatre: *Disgraced*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *A View From The Bridge*. Rav trained at RAD4 in London.

Sky Wahl is, miraculously, a second year Company Member. When she's not running around the Theatricum, she is cartooning, playing guitar, writing, or any combination thereof. Sky thanks her family and friends for their continual, loving support.

Christopher Wallinger has studied at Interlochen, Stella Adler (NY), Moscow Art Theatre, et al. In Chicago, he was a company member with the Organic Theatre. In L.A., he has done dozens of national commercials and television roles (including *New Girl*, FOX; *Rizzoli and Isles*, TNT; *Battle Creek*, CBS; etc.) www.ChristopherWallinger.com.

Frank Weidner* previous Theatricum credits: *As You Like It*, *Leah*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Royal Family*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Measure for Measure*, *The Women of Lockerbie*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Directing Credits: *Cymbeline* (Whitmore-Lindley), *Pocahontas* (Rogue Machine, AD), *The Winter's Tale* (Mine is Yours, AD). www.frankweidner.com.

Katherine Wiseman is very excited to be joining Theatricum Botanicum for her first season! Katherine loves spending her summer in Theatricum's Young People's Camp. She has been in three national commercials Walgreens, Samsung and IKEA. She loves her daddy, mommy and sissy very much.


Madelyn Wiseman is thrilled to be returning for her second season as the Changeling Child. She has been seen in three national commercials for IKEA, Walgreens and Samsung. She loves performing with the Young People's Camp every summer! She loves her mom, daddy, and sissy.

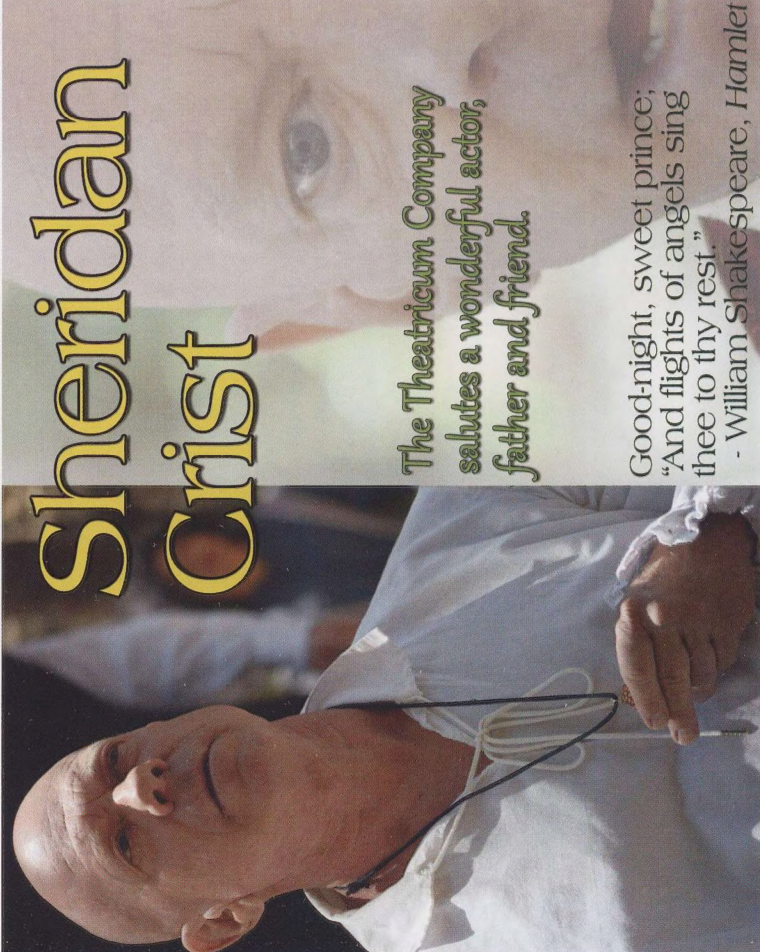
Christopher Yarrow is currently an MFA candidate at the California Institute of the Arts for the class of 2018. This is his first Equity production and is thrilled to be working with Will Geer's Theatricum Botanicum.

Jordann Zbyski is delighted to be making her Theatricum Botanicum debut! She received her Bachelors in Theatre from the University of Southern California and is also a BADA alum. She and her sister Lauren are interns in the acting program this year.

Lauren Zbyski received her BFA in Theatre from Southern Methodist University, where she played roles ranging from 'Juliet' in *Romeo & Juliet* to 'Levene' in an all-female production of *Glengarry Glen Ross*. She can next be seen onscreen in *A Mermaid's Tale*, starring Jerry O'Connell.

Laura Zenoni is thrilled to be working with Theatricum Botanicum. Previous Credits include: *Hamlet* (Ophelia, Archway Theater), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Cobweb, Shakespeare Orange County), *Gray People* (Jenny, OC Centric), *The Sound of Silence* (Anna Hendrix, OC Centric). BFA Chapman University www.laurazenoni.com

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Sheridan Crist

The Theatricum Company
salutes a wonderful actor,
father and friend.

Good-night, sweet prince;
"And flights of angels sing
thee to thy rest."
- William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*

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Olivia Berumen
Rosemary Brownlow
Bridgette J. Campbell
Clayton Cook
Kaitlyn Fae
Jessica Gillette
Bradley Gosnell
Cindy Guastaferrro
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Kevin Hudnell
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Jordana Lilly
Lea Madda
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Jeffrey McFarland
Clarence Powell
Jacquelin Schofield
Alexander Sheldon
Jonathan Sheldon
Clare Snodgrass
Paul Stanko
Daniel Sugimoto
Sky Wahl
Christopher Wallinger
Christopher Yarrow

Young Actors

Caleb Blue Briskman
Hero Duenyas
Judy Durkin
Sierra Rose Friday
Aurora Faye Gaines
Chloe Gaines
Toby Luce
Shane McDermott
Quinnlyn Rose Scheppner
Katherine Wiseman
Madelyn Wiseman

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Jarrod Bogan
Maya Brattkus
Tessa Brennan
Peter Magnus Curry
Page de la Harpe
Evangeline Edwards
Ara Farhadi
Dave Faulkner
Holly Hawk
Margaret Kelly
Bethany Koulias
Casey Maione
Matt Pardue
Larson Rainier
Kacie Rogers
Brant Rotnem
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P. L. Brown
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Please accept our apologies if we've made errors or omissions.



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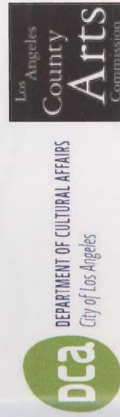
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